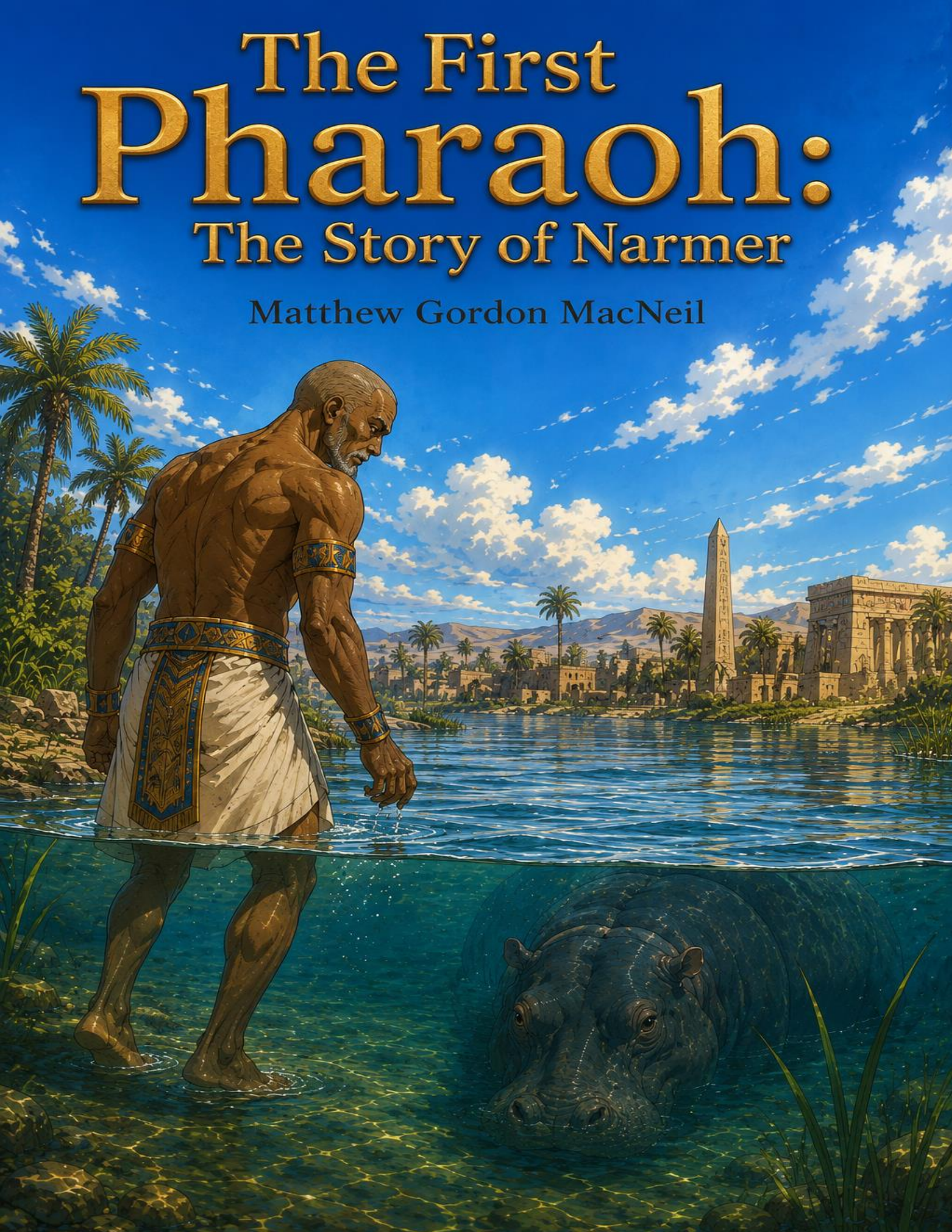
The First Pharaoh: The Story of Narmer

Matthew Gordon MacNeil



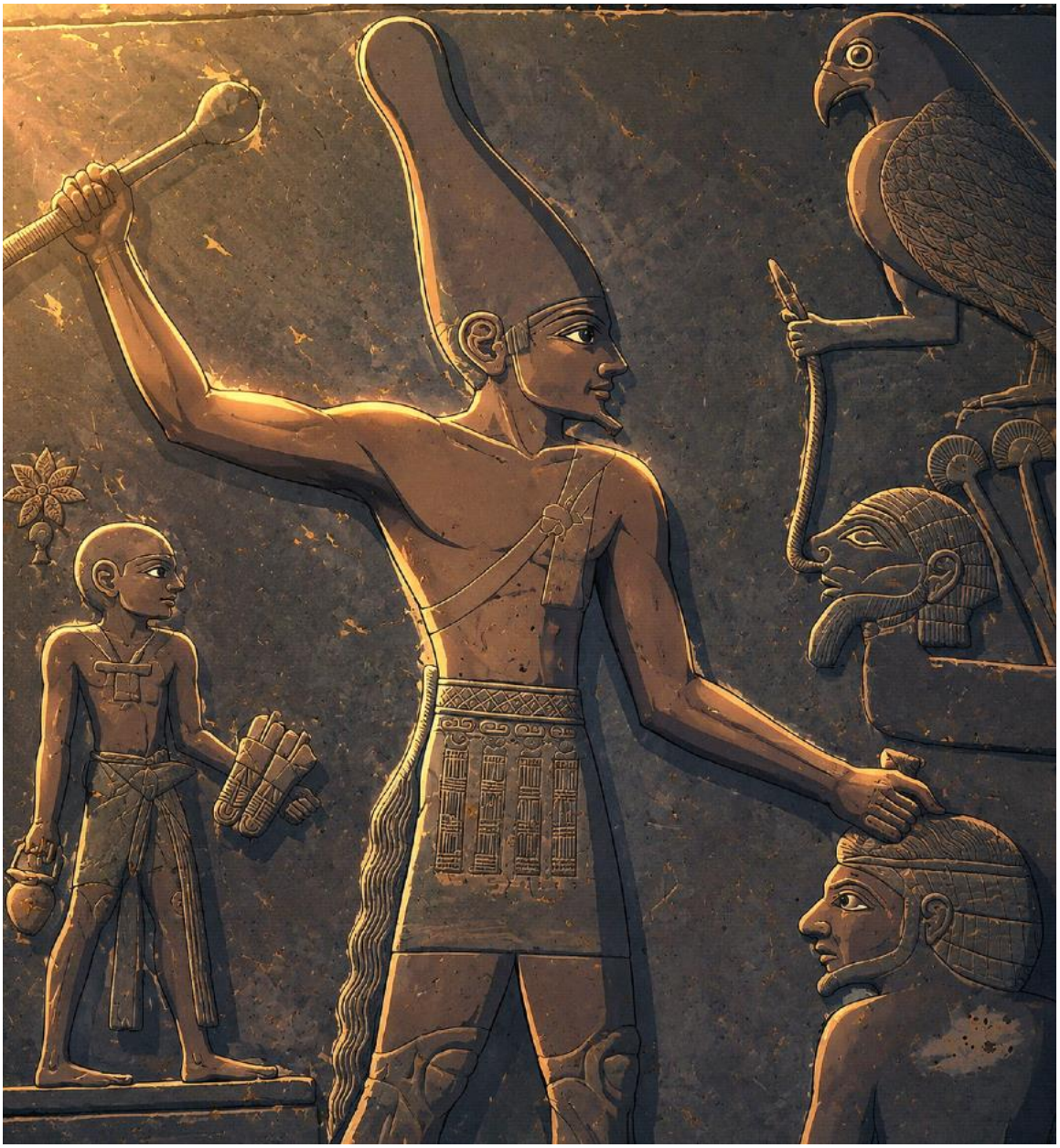
The First Pharaoh: The story of Narmer

By Matthew Gordon MacNeil

Ancient Egypt's mysteries have held thousands in thrall for nearly two centuries since the discovery of the Rosetta Stone allowed us to unlock the secrets of the Hieroglyphics.

One of the biggest questions in early Egyptian history was who united the Kingdom for the first time?

According to the Ptolemaic era historian Mantheo, Egypt's first human King (the country, per ancient Egyptian religious belief, had been ruled by the Gods in the distant past before man's dark nature caused corruption and the land to splinter) was a man named Menes, originally a Lord of Upper Egypt.



Archeologists on the other hand point to a man named Narmer, whose name and likeness were recorded upon what historians call the Narmer palette.

On the palette Narmer, depicted wearing a duel red and white Crown, symbolizing Upper and Lower Egypt respectively,

holds a defeated enemy named Washit by the hair ready to deliver a killing blow from his war club.

Washit was the unfortunate King of Lower Egypt.

Historians therefore believe Narmer and Menes were one and the same man.

But the question remains, where did he come from originally?

The simple truth is no one knows for sure, but I'd like to share my personal opinion on his origins in this short essay.

Noah's flood happened, by my reckoning, in 3090 BC. After, when the world was dry again, the patriarch's three sons and their families spread out from Mount Ararat and met other flood survivors.

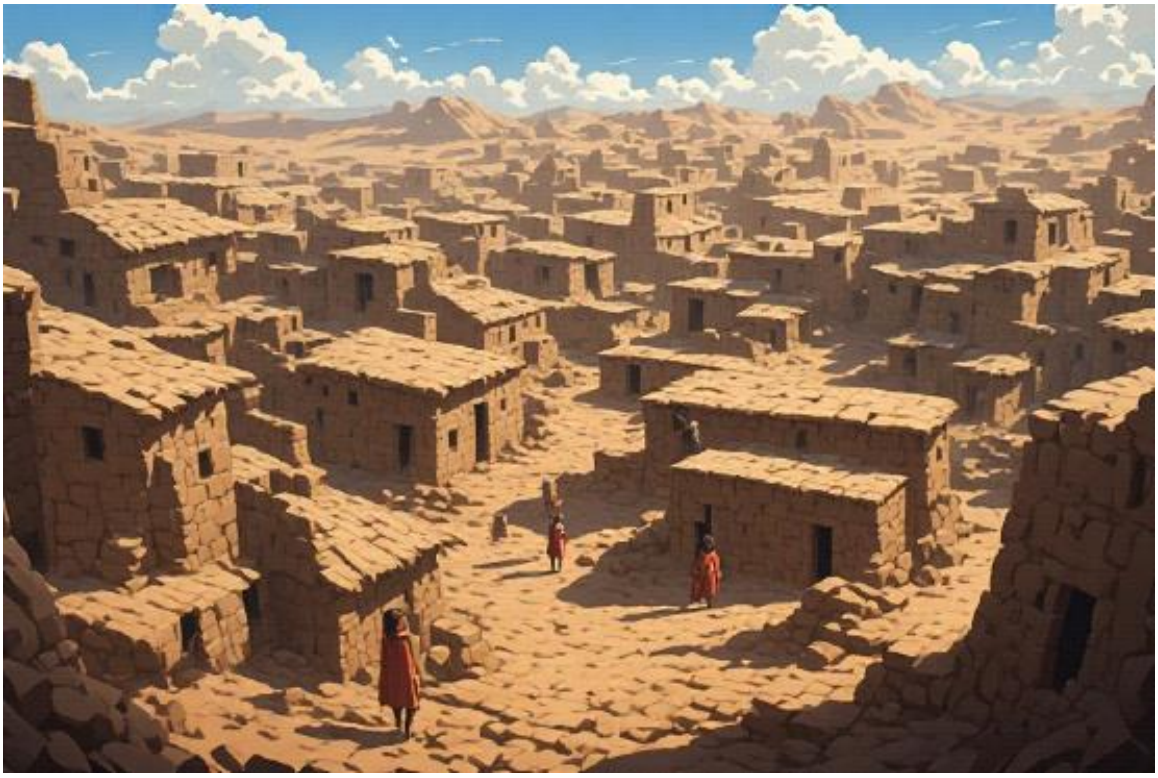
One of these sons, Ham, had several sons of his own, including Mizraim, his second born son.

Along with his younger brother Cush Mizraim, desiring a life beyond simple farming, gathered an army of Anataolian men together and marched into North Africa.

The brothers invaded what is today Egypt, then divided into two Kingdoms. They quickly overcame Upper Egypt's King, Weha, taking his capital city of Thinis, establishing themselves there.

Mizraim killed Weha and took his daughter Neithotep as his wife, to legitimatize his reign. Neithotep proved to be as ambitious as her husband and despite how they came together, the two proved a formidable pair.

Following his marriage Mizraim took the regnal name Narmer, meaning Fighting Catfish, and started plans to conquer Lower Egypt.



With Egypt his, Mizraim turned his attention to what is today Sudan where he hoped to establish Cush and give him his own Kingdom. After several battles the two were victorious and Cush became the King of Nubia, as he named his country.

While Mizraim and Cush got along, such was not the case between Canaan, the eldest son of Ham, and the first Pharoah.

Canaan ruled what is today Israel and parts of Jordan and parts of Lebanon, naming it after himself, but Mizraim wanted the resources found there.

Inevitably the brothers fought, with the Egyptians prevailing and forcing Canaan to submit to Mizraim's overlordship.

Soon following this victory Neithotep gave birth to Mizraim's only known child, a son named Hor-Aha.

To ensure his son succeeded without issues Mizraim laid down the foundations for a strong Kingdom, and these foundations would continue right up to Cleopatra thousands of years later.

The greatest irony of Mizraim's life is that, for all his skills as a warrior and politician, he couldn't conquer nature.

Mantheo records that, after a reign of sixty two years, Mizraim met his death in the jaws of a hippopotamus.

The Pharaoh, fancying a dip in the Nile, caught the animal off guard and before he had time to escape it was too late, the hippopotamus catching hold of the monarch and ending his life.

Hor-Aha continued his father's bloodline and, I believe after consulting the works of Laurence Gardner and Nicholas de Vere, as well as studying the laws regarding Egyptian succession, that Mizraim's descendants continued to hold the throne up until Akhenaten when he and his family were

forced to flee into Canaan with Israelite followers, what I believe was the historical Exodus.

Once established in Canaan Akhenaten's line flourished, giving birth to King David and through David's descendant Tamar, a daughter of King Zedekiah of Judah, to the Irish and Scottish Kings and the Clans who descend from them so that Mizraim has millions upon millions of descendants walking the earth today.